

Long-Sanchez House
43 Marine Street at Bridge Street
St. Augustine
St. Johns County
Florida

HABS No. FIA-132
HABS
FLA
55- SAUG
30-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

LONG-SANCHEZ HOUSE

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Address: 43 Marine Street at Bridge Street, St. Augustine,
St. Johns County, Florida

Present Owner
and Occupant: Mrs. William Aquila Lewis, 43 Marine Street
(also listed as 7 Bridge Street), St. Augustine,
Florida; winter address: Mount Eccentric, The
Plains, Farquier County, Virginia.

Present Use: Private seasonal residence that is used partially
for rental.

Brief Statement
of Significance: José Simeon Sanchez, who lived here in the mid-
19th century, was a prominent resident of St.
Augustine, and was active in both city and state
affairs during the territorial and early statehood
periods.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. General: The house appears on the Clements' survey of
1834 (Map of St. Augustine, Interior Central Land Office,
Benj. Clements and S. B. Clements, 1834, copy in library
of St. Augustine Historical Society, 22 St. Francis
Street, St. Augustine, Florida) as the property of
Joseph S. (José Simeon) Sanchez. This is the first
record of a house on the property.
2. Original and subsequent owners:
 - 1804 George Long
 - 1821 George Long to Luis Levy (St. Johns County Records,
Book "C," pp. 140-41).
 - July 25, 1821 Luis Levy to Belton A. Opp (St. Johns County Records,
Book "C," p. 64).
 - 1829 Marshall's deed to A. S. Willington (St. Johns
County Records, Book "H," p. 340).
 - 1835 A. S. Willington to C. Downing, trustee for Mary
Sanchez, wife of Joseph S. Sanchez. (St. Johns
County Records, Book "M," p. 8).
 - 1853 Heirs of Joseph S. (José Simeon) Sanchez.
 - 1935 William Aquila Lewis (W. A. Lewis vs. J. W. Sanchez
et. al. St. Johns County Records).

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3. Date of erection: Probably between 1804-21 by George Long.
4. Architect and builder: Unknown.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: House was rehabilitated for modern occupancy after 1935 by architect Wilbur Tollerton of Thomasville, Georgia; it was little changed in original fabric.

There is evidence on the south elevation of former stone ell or possible adjacent house.

The garage attached to the south elevation, with access directly from Marine Street, was rebuilt in cement block during the summer of 1963. It is stuccoed, painted gray, and has an overhead electrically operated door.

6. Important old views: Engraving before 1935 alterations shows exterior of house unchanged. (Illustrated booklet, 1512-1915 in illustrated verse, c. 1915).

- B. Sources of information: Long-Sanchez House, 43 Marine Street, St. Augustine, Florida. Personal interview with owner, Mrs. W. A. Lewis. August 1961 and March 1965.

St. Augustine Historical Society, 22 St. Francis Street, St. Augustine, Florida. Personal interview with Mrs. Doris Wiles, Society secretary; information based on Society files. August 1961 and March 1965.

St. Johns County Records, County Court House, Charlotte Street, St. Augustine, Florida.

Although the plan and construction of the Long-Sanchez House are not discussed in Albert Manucy's book, The Houses of St. Augustine, 1565-1821 (St. Augustine, Florida: St. Augustine Historical Society, 1962), the book should be consulted for an understanding of the development of domestic structures in the town and in Spanish America.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural interest: The Long-Sanchez House is a typical St. Augustine domestic structure built during the second period of Spanish control.
2. Condition of fabric: Well maintained; "rehabilitated" for modern occupancy.

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B. Description of Exterior

1. Number of stories: Two-and-a-half.
Number of bays: Four-bay front by three bays.
Over-all dimensions: 31' x 38' exclusive of porches.
Layout: Rectangular shape.
2. Foundations: Coquina blocks. Note: "Coquina" is local shellstone quarried on nearby Anastasia Island and used for construction in St. Augustine since 1580 (letter to King from Governor Pedro Menendez Marquez, December 27, 1583).
3. Wall construction: Coquina blocks squared and laid in roughly horizontal courses in lime mortar plastered inside and out. Originally painted; some traces of scoring to simulate ashlar.
4. Porches: Wooden, two-story porch at rear (east) supported by 6" x 6" wooden posts.
5. Chimneys: A single coquina masonry chimney with a simple cap is located at the south side wall.
6. Openings: All windows except dormer sash have twelve-over-twelve-light, double-hung wooden sash. The dormers each have four lights. First-floor exterior wooden shutters are three paneled; those on the second floor have adjustable louvers.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with ridge running north-south has handmade cement asbestos made to simulate wooden shakes.
 - b. Eaves: Open eaves, projecting rafters.
 - c. Dormers: Two small dormers (one on each slope of the gable roof) have shed roofs and shingled sides.

C. Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Originally the Long-Sanchez House had a simple two-room plan for both stories. Each room fronted on Marine Street. However, now that the first floor is a rental apartment with the northern room divided into smaller units and what may have been the rear two-story porch enclosed and used as a stair and entry hall (with entrance from Bridge Street, which runs east-west), the plan of the house might be considered as a side-hall plan. This hall also has board partitions for several small rooms.

2. Stairways: The wooden, single-run, open-string stairway in the rear hall leads to the owner's residence on the second floor. It has two simple square wooden balusters per tread, a molded wooden rail, and a simple square wooden newel post. The stairway to the attic is behind the wooden paneling that forms the entire interior southern wall of the living room (southern room) of the second floor. It is a narrow wooden stairway - with one steep run and several winders - between the coquina exterior wall and the paneling.
3. Flooring: First floor - asbestos tile over concrete slab. Second floor - both random-width board flooring and asbestos tile.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The exterior masonry walls are plastered and painted white. The partitions are either plaster on wooden studs, wooden paneling, or tongue-and-groove vertical-beaded wooden planks. The ceilings are plaster on wooden lath. Exposed beams and floor boards.
5. Doorways and doors: The first floor generally has four-panel wooden doors. The entry doors on Bridge Street have six panels; those on Marine Street, eight panels each.
6. Notable hardware: Generally the hardware consists of modern replacements. There is some old reused hardware; i.e., an original English box lock.
7. Lighting: Modern electric.
8. Heating: Two fireplaces are located over each other on the south end wall. There is also central heating.

D. Site

1. Orientation: The original front elevation faces west on Marine Street. The present main entry is on the north elevation (Bridge Street). A 1963 replacement of the old garage is attached to the south side; it is of cement block.
2. Outbuildings: There are no outbuildings as such. The garden to the rear (east), however, is enclosed in a modern coquina wall, and is planted informally with semi-tropical plants and trees. It also has a grape arbor. Built into the new coquina wall at the east end of the garden is a monolithic coquina cross (2'-0" x 2'-0", approximately) which was excavated c. 1935 at the northeast corner of the house. The structure is located close to the curb line of both Marine and Bridge Streets.

Prepared by Henry C. Edwards, Architect
National Park Service - August 1961

AND

John C. Poppeliers, Architectural Historian
National Park Service - March 1965